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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/125,958	08/26/1998	TOMOYUKI OHTANI	5162-46	8366

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EXAMINER

LEE, CHI HO A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2663

DATE MAILED: 10/21/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/125,958

Applicant(s)

OHTANI ET AL.

Examiner

Andrew Lee

Art Unit

2663

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7/23/02.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5-8, 11-17, 25, 26, 37, 38 and 40-64 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 40-64 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 7, 8, 13-17, 25, 26, 37 and 38 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 6, 11 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4, 15.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 5, 6, 11, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chater-Lea U.S. Patent Number 5,822,314 in view of Ward U.S. Patent Number 5,663,958.

Re Claim 5, Chater teaches in fig 3, the Frame numbering system 24 (a frame number adder); transmitter 37 transmitting the frame containing the frame number; further teaches in fig 5, calculating the offset (step 114) based on the timing delay, wherein this offset is used to determined the adjusted frame number (step 122) (See col. 7, lines 2-15).

Chater fails to explicitly teach the expected delay time of the frame. However, Wards teaches determining synchronization error based on the expected delay time of the frame (See col. 3, lines 30-55).

One skilled in the art would have been motivated to calculated the synchronization errors based on the expected delay time for reliability.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled incorporate the teaching of Wards into the teaching of Chater.

Re Claim 6, refer to Claim 5, the offset is determined base on the communication between the frame number systems 24 and 20 (fig 3 of Chater).

Re Claims 11, 12, refer to Claim 5, in particular Wards teaches calculating the synchronization error base on expected time and the real. Chater in view of Ward fails to explicitly teach the updating the expected delay time when real time delay exceeds the expected time. However, one skilled in the art would have been motivated to adjust the expected time delay to be adaptive to different operating conditions.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 7, 8, 13-17, 25, 26, 37, 38 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 5, 6, 11, and 12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

5. Newly submitted claims 40-64 directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons:

Claims 40-64 directed to Class 455 subclass 560, 561.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, Claims 40-64 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew Lee whose telephone number is 703-305-1500. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30AM to 6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chau Nguyen can be reached on 703-308-5340. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

A handwritten signature, possibly reading 'N', is written in black ink.

AI
October 19, 2002